



# ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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## Teeth for Two workshops canceled

If you signed up for a Teeth for Two workshop for March 1 in Kansas City or March 9 in Wichita, both sessions have been **canceled**. Emails to registrants went out earlier this week. If you have any questions, please send them to [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org)

## Site visit from Michigan Coalition

Patti Ulrich, from the Michigan Oral Health Coalition, visited Kansas last week. Patti is the grant manager for the Midwest Collaborative Initiative, a project funded through the DentaQuest Foundation's Oral Health 2020 initiative. The Midwest Collaborative Initiative supports ongoing efforts to create, build, and sustain local community oral health coalitions in three states: Kansas, Michigan, and Wisconsin. The goal is to create a tri-state movement of innovation, advocacy and leadership to eradicate dental disease by 2020.

Kansas currently has oral health coalitions in the following counties: Wyandotte, Butler, Johnson, Finney, Shawnee and Sedgwick. Patti was able to visit with our coalition leaders from Shawnee and Johnson counties, our Oral Health Kansas staff, and our OHK Board of Directors. Discussions included



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## Bacteria in the mouth links to stroke

[Researchers have been studying](#) the possible link between stroke patients and bacteria in the mouth. This is to show that oral health is important for overall health.



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## National Health Survey early release

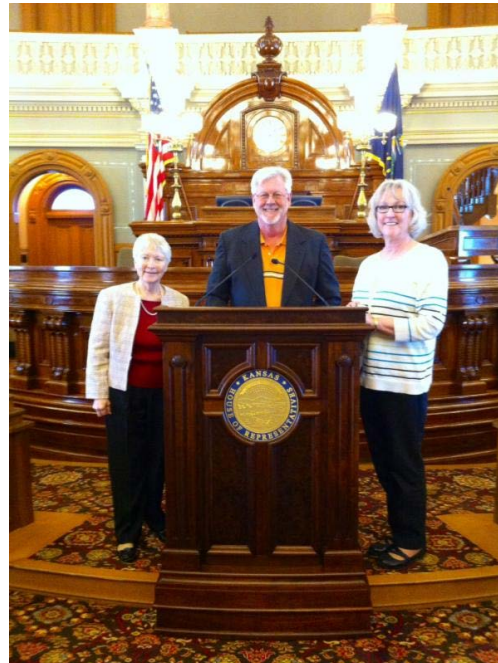
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) updates estimates for 15 selected health measures based on data from the January-September 2015 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and presents estimates from 1997 through 2014 for comparison. The [early release survey results](#) are provided before final data editing but new information will be provided when its available.

planning for 2016, specifically the technical assistance we will provide our partners and communication strategies.

If you would like more information on how to get involved in a coalition in your area or to find out how to start one, contact Doug at [dbowman@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:dbowman@oralhealthkansas.org) or 785-235-6039.



OHK's Tanya Dorf-Brunner and Patti Ulrich visit about 2016 goals



OHK's Marcia Manter and Doug Bowman provided Patti Ulrich with a tour of the Kansas State Capitol.

## Free dental care for kids

For the month of February, Concorde Career College In Kansas City, Missouri, is providing free dental services to kids ages 1-18 through the [Give Kids A Smile Program](#).



## Drink Display

Our drink displays are out the door! This month has been exciting with our drink displays being shared all over Kansas.

Sign up before the slots are full!

The drink display is free for you to use. We can ship to anywhere in Kansas! Shipping costs are reimbursed when you return it to us. To reserve a drink display, [email us!](#)



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## Legislature on break

The House and the Senate adjourned on Tuesday for a five-day recess after meeting Turnaround Day. Turnaround day is the last day to consider bills in house of origin, except by House and Senate Federal and State Affairs, Senate Ways and Means, Senate Assessment and Taxation, House committees on Calendar and Printing, Appropriations, Taxation or select committees of either house when so authorized and the blessing of dozens of bills they didn't get to this week. House bill 2595 passed out of the House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Committee and is on the calendar for consideration by the full House.

The legislature will reconvene on March 2.



## Good dental hygiene linked to a happy life

According to the [Washington Post](#), Americans who are genuinely happy with their lives, have one characteristic in common. And that is good dental hygiene. People who are happy and content, have good dental hygiene because they have the means to go to

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the dentist.

Dan Witters, research director for the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index says, "People who take good care of their teeth generally think they have higher well-being lives." The five factors cited as key to contentment in life are: a sense of purpose, social fulfillment, financial security, sense of community and physical health.



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